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PRESS RELEASE

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California Latino Legislative Caucus Sets New Priorities

Assemblymember Joe Coto (D, San Jose) was selected as the Chair of the California Latino Legislative Caucus. The Caucus met this past weekend to welcome new members, elect officers and discuss legislative priorities.

The 26 member caucus is one of the most influential within the legislature. Its members hold strategic leadership positions in both the Assembly and the Senate. The Caucus focus is primarily on improving the quality of life for working families in California. With over 35 % of the population in California being Latino, the issues affecting them, affect all Californians. The key legislative priorities identified by the Latino Caucus are: Education, Health, Housing, Economic Development and Leadership.

Coto served as the Vice-Chair of the Caucus for the past 2 years. "As our population changes, it is critical for the Caucus to continue taking steps to ensure that more Latinos are graduating from college and prepared to assume the jobs of the 21st century, that Latino families have access to quality health care and that they have the opportunity to own a home."

The following new members joined the Caucus: Senators Lou Correa (SD 34) and Alex Padilla (SD 20), Assembly members Anna Caballero (AD 28), Chuck Calderon (AD 58), Kevin de Leon (AD 45), Ed Hernandez (AD 57), Tony Mendoza (AD 56), Mary Salas (AD 79), and Jose Solorio (AD 69).